

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 181461

14

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07 EB-11 AID-20

SS-15 NSC-10 IO-13 /149 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:STAFF:PP/EB

9/12/73 EXT 22538

APPROVED BY EA/P:AHROSEN

----- 078445

R 122133Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

USSAG NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

UNCLAS STATE 181461

E.O. 11652 N/A

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 181461

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: SEPT. 12 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. AFP (NYT) REPORTS ARRIVAL OF WHITEHOUSE IN VIENTIANE TO REPLACE GODLEY, DESCRIBED AS FIRM SUPPORTER OF RLG AND STRONG ADVOCATE OF HEAVY BOMBING DURING HIS TENURE. MOST PAPERS REPORT IMPENDING SIGNING OF RLG-PL ACCORD (SEE COMMENT).

2. GKR TROOPS IMPROVE POSITION AT KOMPONG CHAM. FANK SPOKESMAN STATES KI SQUEEZED OUT OF N AND S EDGES OF CITY THOUGH STILL HOLD HOUSES IN SOUTHERN HALF, TEXTILE FACTORY W OF TOWN AND AIRPORT ROAD;

FANK REINFORCEMENTS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE, CLAIM DRIVING MANY KI INTO POCKET; PRESENT FORCE ESTIMATE IS 10,000 FANK FACING 8500 KI; CASUALTY FIGURES FOR ENTIRE BATTLE UNAVAILABLE BUT 22 KI REPORTED KILLED SEPT. 11; KI OUTSIDE OF CITY AGAIN BOMBARD KOMPONG CHAM WITH 200 MORTAR ROUNDS NIGHT OF SEPT. 11 (AP NYDN, SUN; WP; CHITRIB; UPI). BROWNE (NYT) SAYS GKR NOR MOMENT HAS CARRIED DAY AT KOMPONG CHAM BY WEIGHT OF NUMBERS, AND KI REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWING FOR PRESENT BUT WOULD REMAIN IN POSITIONS SURROUNDING CITY; REPORTS AMPHIBIOUS OP SUFFERED

EXCESSIVE CASUALTIES DUE POOR HANDLING OF LANDING CRAFT, SOME OF WHICH SUPPOSED TO HAVE SAT IN RIVER FOR 6 HRS UNDER SHELLING, AND BAD LEADERSHIP; ONCE ON SHORE ENEMY RESISTANCE LIGHT BUT FANK NOT PROPERLY DIRECTED OR DUG IN, SUFFERING MANY CASUALTIES FROM SHELL FRAGMENTS. BROWNE DESCRIBES CHAOTIC EVACUATION OF WOUNDED TO PP BY RIVER BOAT AND SAYS THAT CORRESPONDENTS, USUALLY POLITELY TREATED, THREATENED WITH ARREST AND NOT PERMITTED TO TAKE PHOTOS, EVEN FROM STREET, BY "SNARLING" KHMER NAVY GUARDS AND MPS.

3. MOST PAPERS CARRY AP STORY THAT AT LEAST 12 FANK OFFICERS REPORTEDLY WERE EXECUTED ON SEPT. UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 181461

7 AT KOMPONG CHAM BY ORDER OF GEN. SOSTHENE FERNANDEZ FOR REFUSING TO FIGHT. THIS IS FIRST REPORT OF SUCH EXECUTIONS SINCE START OF CAMBODIAN WAR, BUT COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED BY OFFICIAL FANK SPOKESMAN. STATE DEPT. SOURCE CANNOT CONFIRM, CALLS ACTION UNCHARACTERISTIC OF GKR.

4. KAF SUPPORTS OPS TO REOPEN ROUTE 4 TO KOMPONG SOM, BUT IT AND ROUTE 5 TO BATTAMBANG REMAIN CUT (AP, SUN; CHITRIB; WP; UPI).

5. USG AND GVN PROTEST NVN BUILDUP OF AIRFIELDS IN SVN. US NOTE TO NVN EMBASSY PARIS EMPHASIZES

"GRAVE RISKS DRV WOULD RUN BY VIOLATING AIRSPACE SOVEREIGNTY OF SVN" AND CALLS FOR REMOVAL OF SA-2 MISSILES AND AA GUNS ILLEGALLY INTRODUCED SINCE JAN. 27 AGREEMENT. SVN FM AND MILITARY COMMAND IN JOINT CONFERENCE WARN THAT SVN RESERVES RIGHT TO TAKE STRONG MEASURES TO DEFEND ITSELF. SVN INTERPRETS REHABILITATION OF AIRFIELDS AS "PREPARING FOR AN ALL-OUT ATTACK IN ORDER TO WAGE ANOTHER DEVASTATING WAR AGAINST US". WP REPORTS THAT FOLLOWING DOS PUBLIC BRIEFING, COL. STOREY, MILITARY OFFICER WORKING AT DEPT., SAID THAT COMMUNIST BUILDUP AND AIR BASES IN SVN GAVE NORTH VIETS "GREATEST OFFENSIVE (CAPABILITY) OF ANY TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE WAR" (NYT, SUN, CSM, CHITRIB, WP, UPI, REUTER). GVN EMBASSY WASHINGTON ACCUSES PRC OF SUPPLYING MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND AMMUNITION BY FREIGHTER TO DONG HA AIRFIELD (REUTER).

6. AMBASSADORS AND MILITARY CHIEFS OF ICCS FLY TO COMMUNIST CONTROLLED AREAS AT PRG INVITATION. VC SPOKESMAN UNABLE GIVE REASON FOR VISIT (REUTER).

7. ARVN COMMAND REPORTS DROP IN VIOLATIONS TO 70, LOWEST IN 7 DAYS (REUTER).

8. BOMB GOES OFF IN MOVIE THEATER IN CENTRAL COAST; 21 CASUALTIES (NYT).

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 181461

CHINA

9. CHOU AND POMPIDOU DECLARE THEIR COUNTRIES WILL DEFEND SOVEREIGNTY AGAINST ANY US OR USSR ENCROACHMENTS; TWO LEADERS "HAILED THEIR NATIONAL FOREIGN POLICIES" AND PLEDGED INCREASED SINO-FRENCH COOPERATION IN TOASTS DURING 800-GUEST DINNER HONORING VISITING FRENCH PRES (UPI'S SYLVANA FOA IN NYDN, PHINQ; WP; JOC; REUTER NYT, SUN). REUTER NOTES CHOU DID NOT MENTION EITHER US OR SOVIET BY NAME. SAYS CHOU AND POMPIDOU BOTH STRESSED THEIR COMMON REJECTION OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN THEIR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. ALL SOURCES REPORT CHOU'S STATEMENT THAT WORLD FACES THREAT OF NEW WAR AND THAT CHINESE ARE DIGGING DEEP SHELTERS AND STOCKPILING GRAIN. FOA CITES CHOU REMARK THAT CURRENT EAST-WEST UNDERSTANDING IS ONLY "SUPERFICIAL PHENOMENON." NYDN'S VALERY SAYS FRENCH NEWSMEN ACCOMPANYING POMPIDOU REPORT VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUSLY THAT CHINESE GENUINELY FEAR USSR AGGRESSION AND THAT PRC WANTS US LEADERSHIP AND STRONG EUROPE TO DETER SOVIETS. REUTER QUOTES POMPIDOU SAYING THAT BOTH WANT CAMBODIA TO RETURN TO "POSITION OF NEUTRALITY"

10. SUN'S WU REPORTS HK SPECULATION THAT NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS MAY MEET THIS MONTH, CAPPED WITH NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS OCT. 1, MARKING SYMBOLIC END TO "ADMINISTRATIVE PARALYSIS OF THE 1966-68 PERIOD AND THE ENSUING ADMINISTRATIVE ABNORMALITY."

11. AP PHILADELPHIA, CITING DEPARTURE OF PHILA. ORCHESTRA FOR CHINA TOUR, NOTES DEPARTURE REMARKS OF MAYOR RIZZO AND OF TSIEN TA-YUNG, "LIAISON OFFICER WITH PRC CULTURAL MISSION IN WASHINGTON." TSIEN CALLED ORCHESTRA'S TRIP "CAUSE FOR REJOICING" AND THE BEGINNING OF FURTHER SINO-US CULTURAL EXCHANGES (WP). PHINQ'S WEBSTER, WITH ORCHESTRA, REPORTS FROM HONOLULU SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT BY DOS' FRANK TENNEY THAT ONLY 5 CONCERTS SCHEDULED FOR 10-DAY PRC VISIT, AND ORCHESTRA WILL VISIT CHINESE COMMUNE, TAKE BUS TOUR OF PEKING AND SEE GREAT WALL. ORCHESTRA ALSO WILL ATTEND MONDAY NIGHT RECEPTION BY BRUCE, UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 181461

ATTEND CONCERT OF PEKING'S CENTRAL SYMPHONY AND WATCH NEW CHINA BALLET.

12. JANUS THEATER HAS IMPORTED GROUP OF CHINESE DOCUMENTARY FILMS TO BE PRESENTED FOR 2 WEEKS BEGINNING SEPT. 19. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS EXPECTED TO JOIN LARGE CONTINGENT OF CHINESE DIPLOMATS SEPT. 18 FOR SPECIAL INVITATIONAL PREMIER OF SERIES (S-N'S MILLS, SEPT. 11).

JAPAN

13. AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE TUESDAY STAGED SYMBOLIC PROTEST IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY AGAINST DEPARTURE OF AIRCRAFT CARRIER MIDWAY FOR JAPAN. PROTESTERS CONTENDED THEY OBJECTED TO SHIP'S "HOME-PORTING" IN YOKOSUKA, AND TO US MILITARY'S CONTINUING PRESENCE IN ASIA, AT TIME "WHEN WE ARE SUPPOSEDLY ENDING INVOLVEMENT IN THAT AREA" (NYT).

14. GOJ DECIDES ON DIRECT APPEAL TO SUPREME COURT AGAINST DECISION BY DISTRICT JUDGE LAST WEEK THAT DEFENSE FORCES ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL (REUTER, NYT).

15. CHRYSLER SUBSIDIARY SIGNS AGREEMENT PERMITTING MITSUBISHI MOTOR SALES TO SELL PLYMOUTH, CHRYSLER AND IMPERIAL () AUTOS IN JAPAN (JOC, WSJ).

16. JAPANESE CRUDE STEEL PRODUCTION TOTALED 96.9 MILLION TONS LAST YEAR, EXCEEDING 1971 BY OVER 8.3 MILLION TONS (AFP, WP). NIPPON STEEL SPOKESMAN

REPORTS THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR EXPORT OF 275 MILLION DOLLAR STEEL MILL TO CHINA ARE "COMING TO THE FINAL STAGE," BUT THAT CONTRACT NOT YET AGREED ON IN PRINCIPLE AND SIGNING DATE NOT SET (JOC).

17. REUTER'S CHANCELLOR, IN TOKYO, REPORTS W. EUROPE, US AND JAPAN WEDNESDAY SET OUT THEIR BASIC NEGOTIATING POSITIONS AT START OF 3-DAY GATT MINISTERIAL MEETING, WITH KEYNOTE SPEECHES BRINGING OUT NUMBER OF DIFFERENCES
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 181461

BETWEEN US AND COMMART ON HANDLING OF "WORLD'S MOST AMBITIOUS EVER ATTEMPT TO REMOVE OBSTACLES HAMPERING TRADE." EARLIER AP TOKYO REPORTED UNSUCCESSFUL OHIRA-AICHI EFFORTS TO RESOLVE TRADE AND MONETARY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND EEC "THAT COULD JEOPARDITE THE NIXON ROUND" OF NEGOTIATIONS (NYT). SUN'S PEPPER, IN TOKYO, SEES NEW ROUND OF WORLD TRADE TALKS BEGINNING "IN JUST THE WAY IT IS LIKELY TO END TWO YEARS FROM

NOW -- WITH LATE-NIGHT BARGAINING SESSIONS AND A LAST-MINUTE BACKLASH OF DOMESTIC POLITICS."

18. WP'S RANDAL, IN PARIS, REPORTS EFFORTS OF RESTRICTED TECHNICAL GROUP OF 24-NATION OECD OIL COMMITTEE TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF CONSUMERS POOL FOR LEADING NON-COMMUNIST INDUSTRIAL POWERS. TOKYO SHOWING NEW WILLINGNESS TO JOIN SUCH POOLING ARRANGEMENT; IN PAST, JAPANESE HAVE AVOIDED INVOLVEMENT FOR FEAR OF ANGERING MIDEAST PRODUCERS.

19. PRC 33-MEMBER TRADE MISSION ARRIVES IN JAPAN FOR MONTH-LONG VISIT, INCLUDING TALKS WITH TANAKA AND OTHER JAPANESE LEADERS. LATEST ESTIMATES ARE THAT IN FIRST 8 MONTHS OF 1973 SINO-JAPANESE COMMERCE REACHED RECORD 1.1 BILLION DOLLARS (AFP, WP).

PHILIPPINES

20. MARCOS ANNOUNCES GOP DECISION TO OPEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH E. GERMANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HUNGARY AND POLAND. ROMULO LEAVES FOR UN SATURDAY TO COMPLETE NEGOTIATIONS WITH HIS EE COUNTERPARTS (UPI, NYDN).

KOREA

21. US AND OTHER ROK FRIENDS AT UN PRODUCED RESOLUTION

MONDAY NIGHT TO COUNTER EXPECTED COMMUNIST ATTEMPT TO HAVE UNGA BREAK UP UNCURK. RESOLUTION PROVIDES FOR ITS DISSOLUTION, BUT LEAVES TO UNSC FUTURE OF
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 181461

UN COMMAND (AP, WP).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

22. SEYMOUR HERSH (NYT) SAYS DOD WHITE PAPER ON CAMBODIA RAIDS LEFT SOME KEY QUESTIONS UNANSWERED,

SUCH AS WHO AUTHORIZED FALSE REPORTING SYSTEM, WHO PUT IT INTO EFFECT. INSTEAD OF GIVING NAMES, IT CITES "N.S.C.", "D.O.D.", ETC. SOME SENATORS DISAPPOINTED, AND SEN. HUGHES SAYS HE REMAINS "FULL OF SUSPICIONS" UNLESS REQUESTED DOCUMENTATION IS PROVIDED. AMONG MATERIALS NOT SUPPLIED WERE ANALYSIS OF CHARGES THAT VC HOSPITALS WERE SYSTEMATICALLY TARGETED, AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE REPEATED ASSERTION THAT SIHANOUK

KNEW OF AND ACQUIESCED IN BOMBING.

23. IN LAOS, MARKHAM (NYT) SAYS SOUVANNA APPEARS TO HAVE RALLIED SUPPORT FROM RLA (ALMOST WHOLLY DEPENDENT ON US SUPPORT) AND CABINET TO OVERCOME OPPOSITION LED BY NGON SANANIKONE TO AGREEMENT WHICH LIKELY TO BE INITIALED THURSDAY AND SIGNED FRIDAY. SOUVANNA'S EFFORTS WERE AIDED BY PRESSURE FROM US EMBASSY. ACCORD MAKES SOUPHANOUVONG DEPUTY PM BUT GIVES EQUAL RANK TO LEUAM. MARKHAM PROVIDES OTHER DETAILS, NOTING THAT COALITION WILL PROBABLY NOT BE INSTALLED FOR A MONTH, THAT VIENTIANE AND TUANG PRABANG WILL BE "NEUTRALIZED" BY EQUAL FORCES FROM BOTH SIDES AND ALL FOREIGN TROOPS WITHDRAWN WITHIN 60 DAYS. MARKHAM IDENTIFIES TROOPS AS 60,000 NVN AND 15,000 THAI IRREGULARS. NYT AND OTHERS COVERING VIENTIANE DEVELOPMENTS INDICATE PL MADE SOME MINOR LAST-MINUTE CONCESSIONS TO NAIL DOWN ACCORD.

24. IN RAMBLING DISCOURSE ON HAK HEARINGS, WM. BUCKLEY ATTACKS FULBRIGHT'S "VINDICATIVE TREATMENT" OF GODLEY "FOR THE SIN OF CARRYING OUT HIS INSTRUCTIONS" IN LAOS. NOTING COLLAPSE OF DOLLAR, "AMBIGUOUS END" OF INDOCHINA WAR, CYNICAL DISREGARD BY PRC AND UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 181461

USSR OF INDOCHINA PEACE ARRANGEMENTS, ESTRANGEMENT OF JAPAN, ETC., ASKS WHETHER US IS HEADED FOR AN

"INTRNATIONAL WATERGATE" TO BE CONDUCTED IN FUTURE. BUT, PERHAPS HAK RECOGNIZES THAT THE US IS "FAR GONE IN FLATULENCE"; AND HIS SKILLFUL CHESS GAME IS BETTER THAN IMMOBILITY (S-N - 11TH).

25. CSM DEVOTES FULL PAGE TO INDONESIAN URBAN PROBLEMS, WITH MAJOR ARTICLE BY RICHARD CRITCHFIELD. SCHEMEIS THAT SURFACE PROSPERITY OF JAKARTA HIDES FROM VISITOR THE RALITY OF MISERY AND SHOCKING INEQUALITY. SOLUTION URGENTLY NEEDED TO PROBLEMS OF QUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME FROM RAPID ECONOMIC GROWTH.

26. CSM'S MACLEOD, IN JAKARTA, SAYS APPRAISAL OF REASONS BEHIND BANDUNG'S ANTI-CHINESE RIOTS AUG. 5 HAS LED INDONESIAN LEADERS TO CONCLUDE THERE MUST BE WIDER AND MORE RAPID DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH IN NATION. OFFICIALS CONCEDE ROOT CAUSE OF VIOLENCE WAS SIMMERING TENSION BETWEEN NATIVE-BORN INDONESIANS AND BANDUNG'S CHINESE MINORITY WHO, OVERALL, ENJOY BETTER LIVING STANDARD. IRRITANTS WERE CHINESE SUCCESS WITH GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM OF SPURRING INVESTMENT IN INDONESIA AND ALLEGED CHINESE HOARDING OF SCARCE RICE SUPPLIES. RUSH

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE181461
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA/P:STAFF:PP/EB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730963/abqceiob.tel
Line Count: 347
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <22-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEPT. 12 EA PRESS SUMMARY
TAGS: PFOR, XC, US
To: SAIGON INFO BANGKOK
CANBERRA
JAKARTA
MANILA
WARSAW
MOSCOW
PHNOM PENH

SEOUL
TAIPEI
WELLINGTON
BIEN HOA
CAN THO
DANANG
HONG KONG
NHA TRANG
JEC PARIS
PEKING
USSAG NAKHON PHANOM
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
TOKYO
VIENTIANE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005